

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in the application.

Claims 1 and 5 are rejected under U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by anticipated by Takahashi et al.(USPN 5923268).

Claims 2-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al. in view of Tetsuya (Japanese Pub 08-237777).

Claims 6 and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al. in view of Shibmiya (USPN 6795130).

Claims 7-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. (103a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al. in view of Shibmiya (USPN 6795130) further in view of Tetsuya (Japanese Pub 08-237777).

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Analysis of the Claim Rejections

The invention defined by claim 1 relates to a method of controlling a universal remote control for remotely controlling a plurality of equipment including a display apparatus, having the steps of, storing information on input buttons to be subsequently selected when an external input select button of the universal remote control is selected, changing an equipment mode of the universal remote control to display apparatus mode, and transmitting key codes according to the stored information on the input buttons and the changed equipment mode of the universal remote control.

Takahashi relates to a remote controller for sending additional “display and control” codes to a central controlling device (Amplifier) when a single button is pressed. According to Takahashi, in response to one key operation during an operation mode of a target device,

commands of two different code formats are generated. One code format is decodable by a central controlling device for displaying the selected device on the central controlling device and the other code format is decodable by the target device for starting reproduction by the selected device.

Applicant submits that Takahashi does not disclose “changing an equipment mode of the universal remote control to a display apparatus mode when stored information on the input buttons is the information on the input buttons related to the selection of the external inputs into the display apparatus” as required by claim 1. Takahashi merely discloses pressing each equipment mode when the user wants to enter each mode. Additionally, Takahashi does not display any display apparatus mode on a display apparatus.

Applicant submits that claims 1 and 5 are patentable at least for the reasons given above. Additionally, regarding claims 2-4, which depend from claim 1 and which are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al. in view of Tetsuya, Applicant submits that these claims are allowable at least neither Takahashi nor Tetsuya teaches or suggests the deficiencies of Takahashi which were discussed above.

Regarding the rejection of claims 6 and 9-10 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), Applicant submits that these claims are patentable at least because Takahashi and Shibmiya, taken alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest “changing an equipment mode of the universal remote control to a display apparatus mode when stored information on the input buttons is the information on the input buttons related to the selection of the external inputs into the display apparatus”, as required by claim 6. The Examiner refers to Takahashi as teaching this feature,

but Applicant submits that Takahashi does not teach or suggest this feature for the reasons discussed above in relation to claim 1. Shibmiya does not make up for this deficiency.

Regarding the rejection of claims 7-8, which depend from claim 6, under 35 U.S.C. (103a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al. in view of Shibmiya further in view of Tetsuya, Applicant submits that Tetsuya does not make up for the deficiencies of Takahashi and Shibmiya discussed above in relation to the rejection of claim 6.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

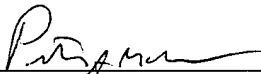
Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER


Peter A. McKenna
Registration No. 38,551

Date: February 6, 2006
(February 4, 2006 falling on a weekend)